

February 2017

Land Grant Application- Woodberry, Benjamin (Beverly)

Benjamin Woodberry

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X Copy of a Deed to
Benjamin Woodberry
& to Esther Dodge
widow of Saml Dodge.

Plains. Et. No 108 & 113 in No 2.

Y.R. Executed 26 Sep: 1777

Recorded Vol 5 page 382

Know all Men by these Presents, THAT

I, whose name is undersigned, I seal hereunto affixed, appointed an AGENT by the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to make and execute conveyances, agreeably to resolves of said Court passed *the seventeenth day of June eighteen hundred and twenty* and pursuant to resolves of said Court passed *the twenty seventh day of March eighteen hundred and thirty three*

do give, grant, convey and confirm, and by these presents, in behalf of said Commonwealth, have given, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto *Benjamin Woodberry formerly a private soldier in the eleventh Massachusetts regiment commanded by Colonel Francis, and to Esther Dodge widow of Samuel Dodge formerly a private soldier in the same regiment*

who enlisted as a Soldier into the American Army to serve during the revolutionary War with Great Britain, and who ~~was~~ ^{were} returned as a part of the Massachusetts quota of said Army, and who did actually serve in said Army the full term of three years, and ~~was~~ ^{were} honorably discharged, and to ~~his~~ ^{their} heirs and assigns, all the right, title, and interest of said Commonwealth, in and unto a lot of land numbered *One hundred & eight and One hundred & thirteen* situate and lying in a township, in the County of *Pendscot* in the State of Maine, numbered *two* in the seventh range of townships west of the east line of said State, said lot N^o 108 contains *two hundred & twenty one acres* and is bounded *On the north by the town line, On the East by lot number ninety six, On the south by lot N^o 109, and on the west by lot N^o 120.* said lot N^o 113 contains *one hundred & seventy eight acres* and is bounded *On the north by lot N^o 114, On the east by lot N^o 101, On the south lot N^o 112 and on the west by the town line*

according to a plan of the survey of said township made by *Joseph L. Keelsey in the* of the year *eighteen hundred and twenty nine* and will more fully appear on reference being had to said plan now on file in the Land Office.

To Have and to Hold the aforegranted premises to the *said Benjamin Woodberry and Esther Dodge and to their* heirs and assigns, to their use and behoof forever. IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my seal this *Twenty sixth* day of *September* in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and *thirty three*

Signed, Sealed and Delivered }
in presence of
Edw^d A. Felling
John S. Linzee

Geo W. Coffin Esq

Suffolk 28th Sep^r 1833 Then the above named
George W. Coffin appeared personally before me, and acknowledged
the foregoing instrument by him subscribed, to be his free act and deed in his said capacity.

Edward D Bangs Justice of the Peace.

We John Sheldon jr of Beverly in the County of Essex
State of Massachusetts, yeoman and, Mary Elliott of said
Beverly, widow on solemn oath depose and say that
we are well acquainted with Esther Dodge widow of
Samuel Dodge late of said Beverly, who was a soldier
of the Revolutionary army, and served in Capt. Billy
Porter's Company as a private as we have understood
in the three years service of 1777. to 1780, that the
said Esther by the name of Esther Grant was married to
said Samuel Dodge Nov 17. 1821. and that the
said Samuel Dodge while on a visit to his
daughter, in Tufton's brook in the State of New Hamp-
shire, died in February 1833. of the Cholera. we further
state that we saw the letter from his daughter announcing
his death, and that a short time previous he
stated he should return to Beverly, to get his papers
ready to receive his semi-annual pension from
the United States - and the said Sheldon says
on oath that he answered the letter to his son in Law
Haley, at Tufton's borough.

John Sheldon Jr
Mary Elliott

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex County } ss. Beverly Feb. 23. 1833
Personally appeared the above named John Sheldon jr and Mary
Elliott and, on oath to the truth of the foregoing
affidavit by them subscribed

Before me Wm. Stephens Justice

To George W. Coffin Esquire Land agent of the Commonwealth
of Massachusetts, at the Land Office in Boston.

Benjamin Woodberry of Beverly in the County of Essex
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, yeoman, a Soldier of the
Revolution, and a Pensioner of the United States under the Act
of Congress of March 18. 1818 and the succeeding Acts of Congress
presents his claim for lands granted by said Commonwealth
to each Soldier and noncommissioned officer of the Revolution
who enlisted for and served a term of not less than
Three years at one time and who was at the time of
his enlistment and now is an inhabitant of said
Commonwealth or was so at the time of his decease
in pursuance of a Resolve of the General Court of
Massachusetts passed 27 day of March 1833.

The said Benjamin Woodberry on solemn Oath says that
he enlisted in Capt Billy Porters Company of infantry
in Col: Ebenezer Francis Mass Regiment on the 13th day of
February, was nineteen years old when I enlisted, the very day
Aaron Francis brother of the Col: enlisted me. He was
Quarter Master of the Regiment, he enlisted for the
Three years service, that he served the whole of the Three years
the term of his enlistment and received an
Honorable discharge on the 13th Feby. 1780. at Fort Mifflin
near West Point. When he enlisted, Billy Porter was Captain
Moses Francis was 1st Lieutenant, William Burley
was 2^d Lieutenant Luke Roundy was Ensign all
of Beverly, that he belonged to Beverly opposed at the
time of his enlistment, and has ever since lived
in said Beverly, and is now a citizen of said Place.

Essex Sworn and subscribed to this
21st day of Sept. 1833. Benjamin Woodberry
Before me Mth Stephens Just. Peace

I Thomas Francis of Salem in the County of Essex Common-
wealth of Massachusetts gentleman an Officer of the Revolutionary
Army on solemn oath depose and say that I was First Lieutenant
and in Capt Billy Porter's company of Foot in Col. Ebenezer Francis's
Regiment and was in the service during the whole of
the Revolutionary War. That the within named Benjamin
Woodberry was a soldier in my company, and served the
whole term of three years as he has within stated, and
was regularly discharged at West Point in 1780 as he has
within stated -

M^r Francis

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Essex County — { Be it known that on the

twenty third day of February Anno Domini 1833. the above
named Thomas Francis personally appeared, subscribed
and made oath to the truth of the foregoing affidavit

Before me W^m Stephens Just. Peace

Know all men that I the within named Benjamin
Woodberry do hereby constitute and appoint Thomas
Stephens of Beverly Esquire my true and lawful
Attorney for me and in my name, to make choice of
or draw for the two hundred acres of land granted me
for services rendered in the Rev. War. in pursuance
of a Resolve of the General Court. Passed March 27. 1833.

Attest W. Page
Thomas Francis,

Benjamin Woodberry

Boston 26 Sept 1837 Received of George W. Coffin
Agent of the Comm^r of Mass^{ts} in favour
of Benjamin Woodberry —

W^m Stephens atty. for
Benjamin Woodberry

To George W. Coffin Esquire Land Agent of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, at the Land Office
in Boston.

Esther Dodge of Beverly in the County of Essex
Commonwealth of Massachusetts, widow of Samuel Dodge
late of said Beverly deceased, a Soldier of the Revolutionary
Army of the United States, respectfully enters her claim
as his widow, for certain lands, granted by said Common-
wealth to each soldier and noncommissioned officer of the
Revolution who enlisted for and served a term of not less
than three years at one time, and who was at the time
of his enlistment and now is and inhabitant of said
Commonwealth, or was so at the time of his decease,
agreeably to a resolve of the General Court, passed 27 March
Anno Domini. 1833.

The said Esther says that she was married to said
Samuel Dodge at Westford in the State of Massachusetts
on the 11th day of December 1821. by the name of Esther Conant
as by the certificate of the Town Clerk of Westford hereto annex-
ed will appear. and that the said Samuel Dodge
while on a visit to his daughter Haley in Tiptonborough
in the State of New Hampshire, was seized with the Palsy
and died in four days after his attack, on the fifteenth
day of February, 1833. - that she believes he served in
the Revolutionary War, and enlisted in Feby. 1777. in
Beverly in the County of Essex, where he then lived, in Colo-
Ebenzer Francis Regiment of the Mass' Line, in Capt. Billy
Porter Company of Infantry, and was discharged at West
Point in Feby. 1780, after serving out the term of his
enlistment which he has often told me was for
the three years service. the evidence of his service in
the Revolutionary Army, the honorable discharge at
West Point is now on the Records at Washington, in
order to afford evidence to enable him to draw his

pension under the act of March 1818. and the act in addition date May 1st 1820 - that she has been able to obtain the affidavits of Benjamin Woodberry and Robert Twiss both soldiers of the Revolution in the same Company and Regiment during the said three years service, both of whom have lived in Beverly since the close of the Revolution, and were well acquainted with my late husband, -

Sworn and

Esther Dodge

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Essex Co. Beverly Sept. 3^d 1833.

The abovesigned Esther Dodge personally appeared subscribed and made oath to the truth of the foregoing statement according to the best of her knowledge and belief.

Before me Thos. Stephens Just. Peace

I Benjamin Woodberry of Beverly in the County of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts yeoman of lawful age depose and say that I was a Soldier in the Revolutionary War that I enlisted for the term of Three years on the 13th day of February 1777. in Capt. Billy Porters Company of foot, in Col. Eben. Francis Mass^t Regiment, I was nineteen years old the very day that I enlisted, was enlisted by Aaron Francis, a brother of our Colonel who was Quarter Master of our Regiment, that I served during the whole term of my enlistment and was discharged at Fort Putnam, West Point about the 13th Feb. 1780. Samuel Dodge of said Beverly was a private soldier in said Company and Regiment enlisted about the same time for the three years service and was discharged in Feb. 1780 at the same time with myself and Robert Twiss of said Beverly who was in the same company. I further testify and say that I have long known the said Samuel Dodge since the Revolution that he lived in my neighborhood, not more than a gunshot

distance from my house, and was a Farmer in a small way for many years - I know that he obtained a Pension from Government for services in the War of the Revolution, and that he died as was said somewhere in the County at his daughter's house while on a visit last winter, - and further your deponent says not.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Essex County

Be it known that on the twentieth day of September 1833. personally appeared the abovesigned Benjamin Woodberry, who subscribed and made oath to the truth of the foregoing deposition.

Before me Thos. Stephens Just. Peace

I Robert Twiss of Beverly in the County of Essex State of Massachusetts on solemn oath testify and say that I was a Soldier in the company and Regiment as above stated by Benjamin Woodberry, that I served the same term of time with him, and that Samuel Dodge was a fellow soldier with us and served as above stated by the said Benjamin Woodberry.

Benjamin Woodberry. Robert Twiss
Essex Co. Subscribed and sworn to
September 20th 1833

Before me Thos. Stephens Just. Peace

I Thomas Francis of Salem in the County of Essex Commonwealth of Massachusetts gentleman an Officer of the Revolutionary Army, on solemn oath depose and say, that I was first Lieutenant in Capt. Billy Porters Company of Foot in Col. Eben. Francis Regiment of the Mass^t Line, that I have heard the foregoing statements read to me respecting the service of Samuel Dodge therein named, whose widow applies for the Bounty of the State, and can swear to the truth of the same and furthermore I can state that I enlisted the said Samuel Dodge, who was my waiter at the commencement of his enlistment, he served his term of three years

Essex Co. Salem, Sept. 21 - 1833. The above named Thos. Francis personally appeared and made oath to the truth of the foregoing affidavit signed in my presence
Before me Thos. Stephens Just. Peace

Know all Men that I Esther Dodge of Beverly
in the County of Essex widow of Samuel Dodge
within named a Soldier of the Revolution, do hereby
constitute and appoint Thomas Stephens of said County
Esquire my true and lawful attorney for me and in
my name to make choice of or draw for the Two Hundred
acres of land granted to my as the Widow of Samuel
Dodge within named a soldier of the Revolution in
pursuance of a Resolve of the General Court passed
march 27. 1833

Attest - *W. D. J.*
Thomas Stephens

Esther Dodge

Nov 17 - 178
108 221
799

Esther Dodge

Samuel Dodge

Esther Dodge widow

Booked to Dep^y Receiver of George. W. Coffin. Samuel
Agent of the Comm^y of Massachusetts. a Deed in
Favour of the Widow Esther Dodge
W. Stephens Atty. for Esther Dodge

The Intentions of marriage between Samuel Dodge of
Beverly and Esther Conant of Westford was entered by
me this seventeenth day of November A.D. 1821

John Abbott Town Clerk

Westford June 18th 1833

Attest Jos. Bennett Town Clerk

December 11th 1821 joined in marriage by The Rev. Caleb Blake
of Westford Mr Samuel Dodge of Beverly and Mrs
Esther Conant of Westford

Westford June 18th 1833

Attest Jos. Bennett Town Clerk